

State of California
Business, Transportation and Housing Agency
Department of Transportation

HIGHWAY ROUTE MATTERS
New Public Road Connection
Resolution S-708
07-VEN-1 KP 24.1 (PM15.0)

CTC Meeting: June 14-15, 2000

Prepared by:
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Agenda Item: 2.3b.2

Original Signed By Jim Nicholas for
W.J. EVANS, Deputy Director Finance
June 1, 2000

NEW PUBLIC ROAD CONNECTION

Recommendation

The Department of Transportation recommends the California Transportation Commission adopt Resolution S-708 to grant approval of a new public road connection at Rice Avenue (Kilometer Post 24.1 [PM15.0]) in the City of Oxnard, in the County of Ventura.

Recommended by: BRENT FELKER, Deputy Director, Project Development

Issue

The City of Oxnard and the County of Ventura have requested approval of a new public road connection at Rice Avenue. Pursuant to Section 100.2 of the Streets and Highways Code, no local road shall be connected with any freeway until the Commission adopts a resolution consenting thereto.

Background

The proposed project will reconstruct the interchange at Route 1 and Pleasant Valley Road and extend Rice Avenue to .56 kilometer (.35 mile) south of Etting Road. The proposed interchange will provide the connection of Rice Avenue to Route 1.

The interchange construction and new public road connection were discussed in the Project Report dated October 12, 1997. The project will cost a total of \$29,200,000. This project is programmed in the 1999/2000 Fiscal Year State Transportation Improvement Program at \$27,988,000 with \$1,212,000 being funded by the Federal Port Access Demonstration Funds.

The Final Environmental Impact Report was approved on August 6, 1997. The CTC adopted the findings and approved future consideration of the funding for this project.

Discussion

The existing facility for Route 1 is a four-lane freeway that connects to Oxnard Boulevard. A freeway alignment that would bypass Oxnard Boulevard and connect Route 1 with Route 101 was adopted in 1964. Freeway agreements for this segment were executed with the City of Oxnard and the County of Ventura in 1971. Oxnard Boulevard currently operates as a conventional traversable highway for the aforementioned segment of Route 1 until the freeway is constructed.

Increasing through-traffic along the Oxnard Boulevard segment has created congested conditions, particularly at the intersection with Wooley Road, Gonzales Road and Vineyard Avenue. Compounding the congestion problem is the Southern Pacific Railroad that runs parallel to Oxnard Boulevard. Significant delays are experienced during peak traffic hours. In 1973 growing financial constraints and environmental concerns led to the formation of a multi-agency committee to evaluate alternatives to the freeway construction.

In 1982 the California Transportation Commission held public hearings on a proposed rescission of the unconstructed portion of the freeway route adoption. At the hearing, the City of Oxnard requested that certain improvements be made to the existing facilities, if the route adoption is rescinded. The requested improvements consisted of designating Rice Avenue as State Route 1, extending Rice Avenue south to the existing Route 1 and reconstructing the existing interchange at Rice Avenue and Pleasant Valley Road, along with other corridor improvements.

In 1983 a multi-agency committee consisting of representatives from the City of Oxnard, Ventura County Department of Public Works, Southern California Association of Governments and Caltrans evaluated the City of Oxnard's request. A proposal to reconstruct the interchange and divert traffic to Rice Avenue in order to reduce traffic delays and accident rates was submitted to Caltrans in a Project Study Report dated October 10, 1985. Additionally, the connection to Rice Avenue along with the proposed extension of Rice Avenue to the south is necessary to improve the access to Port Hueneme. The Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) was approved on July 9, 1997. The CTC adopted the findings from the EIR/EA at the January 1998 meeting.

The City Council for the City of Oxnard and the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors will each pass a resolution to execute a superseding freeway agreement which will show the new public road connection at Rice Avenue.

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution Authorizing
A New Public Road Connection
To the Freeway
07-VEN-1 KP 24.1 (PM15.0)

Resolution Number S-708

WHEREAS, a superseding Freeway Agreement for Route 1 will be executed by the City of Oxnard following a meeting of the City Council in June 2000, showing the public road connection of Rice Avenue; and

WHEREAS, a superseding Freeway Agreement for Route 1 from will be executed by the County of Ventura following a meeting of the Board of Supervisors in June 2000, showing the public road connection of Rice Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the failure of the City of Oxnard or the County of Ventura to approve the Freeway Agreement shall render this resolution void; and

WHEREAS, the California Transportation Commission has considered the information contained in the Environmental Impact Report; and

WHEREAS, evidence was presented that the impacts of the proposed project will be mitigated; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission that it hereby authorizes a new public road connection to Route 1 at Rice Avenue Kilometer Post 24.01 (Post Mile 15.0)